

ORANGE DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS/TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

COMMISSIONER ROY CUZZOCREO
COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER CARVETH

COMMISSIONER JOHN BARTON

COMMISSIONER MARIAN HURLEY COMMISSIOER NYJAHWAHN WALKER

TRAFFIC AUTHORITY Monday November 13, 2023 – 4:30 p.m.

Unapproved Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance

Commission Chairman Barton called the Traffic Authority Meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

Commissioners Present:

Commissioner Jack Barton

Commissioner Roy Cuzzocreo

Commissioner Marian Hurley (joined at 4:35 pm)

Commissioner Chris Carveth

Commissioner Nyjahwahn Walker

Commissioners Absent:

Also Present:

Police Chief Robert Gagne

Assistant Police Chief Max Martins

Kathy Gulia, Board Secretary

Kevin Solli and Luke Mauro, Solli Engineering; John Knuff , Hurwitz, Sagarin, Slossberg & Knuff LLC;

Michael Frisbee, Noble Fuel

Jim Zeoli, First Selectman, Town of Orange

Minutes

Commissioner Carveth seconded by Commissioner Cuzzocreo, made the motion to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2023 Traffic Authority Meeting. The motion passed 3-0 with Commissioner Walker abstaining.

Old Business

88 Marsh Hill Road, Noble Fuel: First Selectman Zeoli began the discussion explaining that the Town and Economic Development Team support this project. He reviewed that the State of CT DOT will not consider this project until it passes the Local Traffic Authority. He advised the Board that he understands the concern is with the traffic light, which is now being removed and that the other potential use is another hotel. He feels a hotel would not be good for the Town and would be a drain on emergency services. First Selectman Zeoli left the meeting at 4:40 pm.

Attorney Knuff spoke and explained that after discussing this project with Town Attorney Vin Marino, the Town agreed to review the project again with new traffic data.

Kevin Solli and Luke Mauro presented the new data explaining that in the first proposal conservative, accepted ITE data was used. Now they have replaced that with actual, empirical data obtained from their location in East Lyme, CT. The data from East Lyme shows a decrease in anticipated traffic, which largely is due to "shared"

Old Business (continued)

visits, explaining one vehicle is purchasing from multiple sites within the one location. The decrease in traffic now alleviates the need for a traffic signal and utilizes a stop sign on the property. The use of a stop sign will result in traffic cues only in their property, not on the roadways. Mr. Solli went on to explain that utilizing the East Lyme data is comparable, in that it is in Connecticut, directly off I-95 with access from North and South bound and is the same size building with the same occupants. Discussion ensued with the Commissioners and Chiefs, reviewing the new numbers, discussing ITE vs. actual numbers, DOT rules and left hand turns to leave the property. The discussion also included the fact that the East Lyme location has significant open space surrounding it versus the type of activity in the Marsh Hill Road area. Michael Frisbee explained the types of businesses that will be located in this location, order of development, EV charging stations and his five other locations in Connecticut.

Commissioner Cuzzocreo, seconded by Commissioner Carveth made a motion to accept the proposal as presented, approving the project to move forward. The motion passed 3-0, with Commissioners Walker abstaining due to a business conflict of interest and Commissioner Hurley abstaining.

Commissioner Carveth reminded the Board that he was a client of Attorney Knuff in the past, but that has no bearing on his decision today.

Kevin Solli, Luke Mauro, John Knuff and Michael Frisbee left the meeting at 5:30 pm.

<u>Firelite Plaza</u>: Chief Gagne shared the approved Administrative Decision from the State of CT.

<u>16 & 22 Salemme Lane</u>: Chief Gagne shared the approved Administrative Decision from the State of CT.

<u>Mandatory TA Training</u>: Chief Gagne explained he will be attending this online training in December.

Commissioner Carveth and Assistant Chief Martins will also attend.

New Business

None.

Correspondence

<u>State of CT DOT – Secondary Road Sign Replacement</u>: Chief Gagne presented the plan to the Board for informational purposes.

Commissioner Hurley, seconded by Commissioner Walker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted, Kathy Gulia, Board Secretary